Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-2 (cancelled)

1   **Claim 3 (previously presented):** The electronic asset
2   utilization system of claim 84, wherein said issuance of said
3   exchange certificate occurs only after said settlement
4   processing section has settled the charge.

1   **Claim 4 (previously presented):** The electronic asset
2   utilization system as defined in claim 3, wherein, in a case
3   where said second terminal receiving said exchange certificate
4   is a portable mobile terminal, submission of said exchange
5   certificate to the server and/or transmission of the
6   electronic asset to the second terminal that has the exchange
7   certificate are carried out by way of a stationary terminal
8   which can exchange data with the terminal.

1   **Claim 5 (previously presented):** The electronic asset
2   utilization system as defined in claim 3, wherein the exchange
3   certificate comprises settlement information indicating that
4   the charge billed to the electronic asset has already been
5   settled, and status information indicating that the
6   corresponding electronic asset has not yet been received.

1   **Claim 6 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 5, wherein an

3   expiration date by which the exchange certificate can be

4   exchanged for the corresponding electronic asset is set for

5   the exchange certificate.

1   **Claim 7 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 6, wherein, in a case

3   where the exchange certificate has not yet been exchanged for

4   the electronic asset even though the expiration date has

5   nearly arrived, the server sends, to the one of said first,

6   second, or another terminal to which the exchange certificate

7   has been transmitted, a message indicating that the expiration

8   date has nearly arrived.

1   **Claim 8 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 6, wherein, in a case

3   where the exchange certificate has not yet been exchanged for

4   the electronic asset even when the expiration date has nearly

5   arrived, the server issues to the one of said first, second,

6   or another terminal to which the exchange certificate has been

7   transmitted a request for downloading the electronic asset or

8   forcibly transmits the electronic asset to the one of said

9   first, second, or another terminal to which the exchange

10   certificate has been transmitted.

1   **Claim 9 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 6, wherein the server

3   further includes past-due processing means, and in the event

4   that the exchange certificate still has not been exchanged for

5   the corresponding electronic asset even after lapse of the

6   expiration date of the exchange certificate, the past-due

7   processing means sends, to the one of said first, second, or

8   another terminal to which the exchange certificate has been

9   transmitted, a message indicating that the expiration date has

10   passed and a request for downloading the electronic asset, or

11   forcedly transmits the electronic asset.

1   **Claim 10 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in 9, wherein the past-due

3   processing means issues to the one of said first, second, or

4   another terminal to which the exchange certificate has been

5   transmitted a request for deleting or invoking the expired

6   exchange certificate.

1   **Claim 11 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in 9, wherein, upon receipt of

3   the message or the download request from the server, the one

4   of said first, second, or another terminal indicates, on a

5   display section, the message or details of the download

6   request and/or details of the exchange certificate.

1   **Claim 12 (previously presented):**   The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 9, wherein, upon

3   receipt of the message or the download request from the

4   server, the one of said first, second, or another terminal

5   issues voice notification indicating receipt of the message or

6   the download request.

1   **Claim 13 (previously presented):**   The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 10, wherein, upon

3   receipt of the request for deleting or invoking the expired

4   exchange certificate from the past-due processing means, the

5   one of said first, second, or another terminal deletes or

6   invokes the exchange certificate.

1   **Claim 14 (withdrawn):**   An electronic asset utilization

2   system comprising:

3   a terminal which is connected to a communications network

4   and outputs a signal for requesting booking of a desired

5   electronic asset; and

6   a server which is connected to the communications network

7   and comprises

8   issuance means for issuing a receipt certificate

9   verifying booking of a desired electronic asset represented by

10   the signal,

11   processing means for transmitting the receipt certificate

12   issued by the issuance means to the terminal or to another

13   predetermined terminal, and

14   settlement processing means for settling a charge billed

15   to the electronic asset corresponding to the receipt

16   certificate, wherein,

17   in a case where the receipt certificate is submitted to

18   the server by way of the communications network, after the

19   settlement processing means has settled the charge billed to

20   the electronic asset corresponding to the receipt certificate

21   in accordance with requirements described on the receipt

22   certificate, the issuance means issues the electronic asset

23   corresponding to the receipt certificate and the processing

24   means transmits the electronic asset to the terminal that has

25   submitted the receipt certificate.

1   **Claim 15 (withdrawn):** The electronic asset utilization

2   system as defined in claim 14, wherein, in a case where the

3   terminal is a portable mobile terminal, submission of a

4   receipt certificate to the server, settlement of the charge

5   billed to the electronic asset, and/or transmission of the

6   electronic asset to the terminal that has submitted the

7 receipt certificate are carried out by way of a stationary

8 terminal which is connected to the communications network, can

9 transfer data with respect to the terminal, and is disposed to

10 be stationary.

1 **Claim 16 (withdrawn):** The electronic asset utilization

2 system as defined in claim 14, wherein the receipt certificate

3 contains information about the booked electronic asset and

4 information about the receipt certificate.

1 **Claim 17 (withdrawn):** The electronic asset utilization

2 system as defined in claim 16, wherein an expiration date is

3 set for the receipt certificate such that the electronic asset

4 can be received before its expiration.

1 **Claim 18 (withdrawn):** The electronic asset utilization

2 system as defined in claim 17, wherein the server issues to

3 the terminal to which the receipt certificate has been

4 transmitted a request for deleting or invoking an expired

5 receipt certificate.

1 **Claim 19 (withdrawn):** The electronic asset utilization

2 system as defined in claim 18, wherein, upon receipt of the

3 request for deleting or invoking the expired receipt

4   certificate from the server, the terminal deletes or invokes

5   the receipt certificate.

Claim 20 (cancelled)

1   **Claim 21 (withdrawn):**   The electronic asset utilization

2   system as defined in any one of claims 2, 3, and 14, wherein

3   the server has retaining means for retaining the electronic

4   asset,   the   exchange   certificate,   and/or   the   receipt

5   certificate issued by the issuance means, and the retaining

6   means retains the electronic asset even when the exchange

7   certificate corresponding to the retained electronic asset has

8   expired and retains the receipt certificate even when the

9   retained receipt certificate has expired.

1   **Claim 22 (previously presented):**   The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 84, wherein the server

3   further includes electronic asset status management means for

4   managing the date and the time of issuance status of the

5   electronic asset, an effective term of the electronic asset,

6   whether there is the exchange certificate or not, and the

7   effective term of the exchange certificate, wherein the

8   electronic asset is issued by the issuance section, and

9   wherein the exchange certificate is managed correspondingly to

10   the electronic asset.

Claims 23-32 (cancelled)

1   **Claim 33 (withdrawn):**   An electronic asset utilization

2   method using an electronic asset utilization system having a

3   terminal connected to a communications network and a server

4   connected   to   the   communications   network,   the   method

5   comprising:

6   a booking request step of requesting booking of a desired

7   electronic asset;

8   a receipt certificate issuance step of issuing a receipt

9   certificate verifying booking of a desired electronic asset

10   requested in the booking request step;

11   a receipt certificate transmission step of transmitting,

12   to the terminal or another predetermined terminal, the receipt

13   certificate issued in the receipt certificate issuance step;

14   a   receipt   certificate   submission   step   in   which   the

15   terminal submits a receipt certificate to the server by way of

16   the communications network;

17   a   settlement   step   of   settling   a   charge   billed   to   the

18   electronic   asset   submitted   in   the   receipt   certificate

19   submission step, in accordance with requirements described in

20   the receipt certificate;

21   an   electronic   asset   issuance   step   of   issuing   the

22   electronic asset corresponding to the receipt certificate; and

23   an electronic asset transmission step of transmitting to

24   the terminal that has submitted the receipt certificate the

25   electronic asset issued in the electronic asset issuance step.

1   **Claim 34 (withdrawn):** The electronic asset utilization

2   method as defined in claim 33, wherein, in a case where the

3   terminal is a portable mobile terminal, in the receipt

4   certificate submission step, the settlement step, and/or the

5   electronic asset transmission step, submission of a receipt

6   certificate to the server, settlement of the charge billed to

7   the electronic asset and/or transmission of the electronic

8   asset are carried out by way of a stationary terminal which is

9   connected to the communications network, can transfer data

10   with respect to the terminal, and is disposed to be

11   stationary.

1   **Claim 35 (withdrawn):** The electronic asset utilization

2   method as defined in claim 33 or 34, wherein the receipt

3   certificate contains information about the booked electronic

4   asset and information about the receipt certificate.

1   **Claim 36 (withdrawn):** The electronic asset utilization

2   method as defined in claim 35, wherein an expiration date is

3   set for the receipt certificate such that the electronic asset

4   can be received.

1   **Claim 37 (withdrawn):**   The electronic asset utilization

2   method as defined in claim 36, further comprising a receipt

3   certificate deletion/ invocation step of issuing to the

4   terminal to which the receipt certificate has been transmitted

5   a request for deleting or invoking an expired receipt

6   certificate.

1   **Claim 38 (withdrawn):**   The electronic asset utilization

2   method as defined in any one of claims 23, 24, 25, and 26,

3   further comprising a retransmission step of, in an event that

4   transmission of the issued electronic asset, exchange

5   certificate, or receipt certificate has failed in the

6   electronic asset transmission step, the electronic asset

7   forced transmission step, the exchange certificate

8   transmission step, or the receipt certificate transmission

9   step, retransmitting the electronic asset, the exchange

10   certificate, or the receipt certificate.

   Claims 39-47 (cancelled)

1   **Claim 48 (previously presented):**   The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 6, wherein, in a case

3   where the exchange certificate has not yet been exchanged for

4   the electronic asset corresponding to the exchange certificate

5   even when the expiration date has nearly arrived, the server

6   sends, to the terminal to which the exchange certificate has

7   been transmitted, a message indicating that the expiration

8   date has nearly arrived, and

9   in a case where the exchange certificate has not yet been

10   exchanged for the electronic asset corresponding to the

11   exchange certificate even when the expiration date is

12   imminent, the server issues to the terminal to which the

13   exchange certificate has been transmitted a request for

14   downloading the electronic asset, or forcibly transmits the

15   electronic asset corresponding to the exchange certificate to

16   the terminal.

     Claim 49 (cancelled)

1   **Claim 50 (withdrawn):**   The electronic asset utilization

2   system as defined in claim 17, wherein, in a case where the

3   receipt certificate has not yet been exchanged for the

4   electronic asset corresponding to the receipt certificate even

5   when the expiration date is close at hand, the processing

6   means sends, to the terminal to which the receipt certificate

7   has been transmitted, a message indicating that the expiration

8   date is close at hand.

1   **Claim 51 (withdrawn):** The electronic asset utilization

2   system as defined in claim 17, wherein the terminal displays

3   at least one of the message and a content of the receipt

4   certificate on a display portion, when the terminal receives

5   the message from the server.

1   **Claim 52 (withdrawn):** The electronic asset utilization

2   system as defined in claim 50 or 51, wherein the terminal

3   generates a sound representing a receiving of the message,

4   when the terminal receives the message from the server.

1   **Claim 53 (withdrawn):** The electronic asset utilization

2   method as defined in claim 36, further comprising third

3   message sending step for sending to the terminal to which the

4   receipt certificate has been transmitted, a message indicating

5   that the expiration date has nearly arrived, in a case where

6   the receipt certificate has not yet been exchanged for the

7   electronic asset corresponding to the receipt certificate even

8   when the expiration date has nearly arrived.

1   **Claim 54 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 84, wherein the

3   exchange certificate comprises settlement information

4   indicating that the charge billed to the electronic asset has

5   already been settled, and status information indicating that

6   the corresponding electronic asset has not yet been received.

1   **Claim 55 (previously presented):**   The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 7, wherein, in a case

3   where the exchange certificate has not yet been exchanged for

4   the electronic asset corresponding to the exchange certificate

5   even when the expiration date has nearly arrived, the server

6   issues to the terminal to which the exchange certificate has

7   been transmitted a request for downloading the electronic

8   asset or forcibly transmits the electronic asset corresponding

9   to the exchange certificate to the terminal.

        Claims 56-71 (cancelled)

1   **Claim 72 (previously presented):**   The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 6, wherein the server

3   has past-due processing means, and in the event that the

4   exchange certificate still has not been exchanged for the

5   corresponding electronic asset even after lapse of the

6   expiration date of the exchange certificate, the past-due

7   processing means sends, to the terminal to which the exchange

8   certificate has been transmitted, a message indicating that

9   the expiration date has passed and a request for downloading

10 the electronic asset, or forcedly transmits the electronic

11 asset.

1   **Claim 73 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2 utilization system as defined in claim 72, wherein the past-

3 due processing means issues to the terminal to which the

4 exchange certificate has been transmitted a request for

5 deleting or invoking the expired exchange certificate.

1   **Claim 74 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2 utilization system as defined in claim 73, wherein, upon

3 receipt of the message or the download request from the

4 server, the terminal to which the exchange certificate has

5 been transmitted indicates, on a display section, the message

6 or details of the download request and/or details of the

7 exchange   certificate.

1   **Claim 75 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2 utilization system as defined in claim 74, wherein the server

3 has retransmission processing means, and, in the event that

4 transmission of the electronic asset or the exchange

5 certificate has failed, retransmission processing means

6 comprised in said server retransmits the electronic asset or

7 the exchange certificate, respectively.

Claims 76-77 (cancelled)

1   **Claim 78 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in one of claims 7, 8, and 55,

3   wherein past-due processing means comprised in said server

4   issues to the terminal to which the exchange certificate has

5   been transmitted a request for deleting or invoking the

6   exchange certificate that has expired.

1   **Claim 79 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 78, wherein, upon

3   receipt of a request for deleting or invoking the expired

4   exchange certificate from the past-due processing means, the

5   terminal deletes or revokes the exchange certificate.

1   **Claim 80 (previously presented):** The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 7, wherein, upon

3   receipt of the message or the message from the server, the

4   terminal that received the exchange certificate indicates, on

5   a display section, the message and/or information of the

6   exchange certificate.

1   **Claim 81 (previously presented):**   The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 7, wherein, upon

3   receipt of the message from the server, the terminal issues

4   voice notification indicating receipt of the message.

1   **Claim 82 (previously presented):**   The electronic asset

2   utilization system as defined in claim 84, wherein the server

3   further comprises retransmission processing means, and, in the

4   event that transmission of the electronic asset or the

5   exchange certificate has failed, the retransmission processing

6   means retransmits the electronic asset or the exchange

7   certificate, respectively.

      Claim 83 (cancelled)

1   **Claim 84 (currently amended):**   An electronic asset

2   utilization system comprising:

3   a first terminal connected to a communications network,

4   said first terminal including:

5   means for sending an order for purchasing an electronic

6   asset <u>including electronic data</u> for obtaining a service or

7   product being offered for sale by a vendor,

8   means for <u>electronically</u> requesting the issuance of said

9   electronic asset on a predetermined date and time,

10   means for electronically transmitting financial

11   information to support said purchase of said electronic asset,

12   and

13   means for receiving settlement information about said

14   purchase; and

15   a server connected to the communications network, said

16   server including:

17   a user processing section for receiving said order from

18   said first terminal;

19   a settlement processing section for receiving said

20   financial information from said first terminal, and for

21   settling a charge for said purchase in response to receiving

22   said financial information, and also for electronically

23   transmitting said settlement information about the purchase to

24   said first terminal after settling said charge,

25   an exchange certificate issuance section for

26   electronically transmitting an exchange certificate including

27   electronic data to said first terminal or to a second terminal

28   in response to said order, wherein said exchange certificate

29   is used for verifying ~~verifies~~ a user's right to receive said

30   electronic asset,

31   an electronic asset issuance section for electronically

32   transmitting said electronic asset corresponding to, and in

33   exchange for, the exchange certificate, at said predetermined

34   date and time, said transmitting to one of said first

35   terminal, said second terminal, or a third terminal, and

36   an electronic asset status management section for

37   ensuring that said electronic asset is transmitted to said one

38   of said first terminal, said second terminal, or said third

39   terminal only if said exchange certificate has been

40   transmitted to said server from said one of said first

41   terminal, said second terminal, or said third terminal;

42   wherein said exchange certificate includes information

43   about obtaining said electronic asset, and further

44   wherein said electronic asset is for obtaining the

45   service or product from the vendor.

1   **Claim 85 (currently amended):**   An electronic asset

2   utilization method comprising the steps of:

3   purchasing an electronic asset including electronic data,

4   including the steps of:

5   sending an order for purchasing said electronic asset for

6   obtaining a service or product being offered for sale by a

7   vendor,

8   requesting the issuance of said electronic asset on a

9   predetermined date and time,

10   electronically transmitting financial information to

11   support said purchase of said electronic asset, and

12   receiving settlement information about said purchase; and

13   issuing said electronic asset, including the steps of:

14   receiving said order from said first terminal;

15   receiving said financial information from said first

16 terminal,

17   settling a charge for said purchase in response to

18 receiving said financial information,

19   electronically transmitting said settlement information

20 about the purchase to said first terminal after settling said

21 charge,

22   electronically transmitting an exchange certificate

23 including electronic data in response to said order, wherein

24 said exchange certificate verifies a user's right to receive

25 said electronic asset, and

26   electronically transmitting said electronic asset

27 corresponding to, and in exchange for, the exchange

28 certificate, at said predetermined date and time, said

29 transmitting to the user;

30   wherein said electronic asset is transmitted only if said

31 exchange certificate has been provided by the user prior to

32 issuing said electronic asset, and

33   wherein said exchange certificate includes information

34 about obtaining said electronic asset, and further

35   wherein said electronic asset is for obtaining the

36 service or product from the vendor.

1   **Claim 86 (currently amended):** A server connected to a

2   terminal by way of a communications network, said server for

3   use in an electronic asset utilization system ~~comprising~~, said

4   server comprising:

5   a user processing section for receiving an order from a

6   first terminal for purchasing an electronic asset <u>including</u>

7   <u>electronic data</u> for obtaining a service or product being

8   offered for sale by a vendor, wherein said electronic asset is

9   to be <u>electronically</u> transmitted at a predetermined date and

10   time;

11   a settlement processing section for receiving said

12   financial information from said first terminal, and for

13   settling a charge for said purchase in response to receiving

14   said financial information, and also for <u>electronically</u>

15   transmitting said settlement information about the purchase to

16   said first terminal after settling said charge,

17   an exchange certificate issuance section for

18   <u>electronically</u> transmitting an exchange certificate <u>including</u>

19   <u>electronic data</u> to said first terminal or to a second terminal

20   in response to said order, wherein said exchange certificate

21   verifies a user's right to receive said electronic asset,

22   an electronic asset issuance section for <u>electronically</u>

23   transmitting said electronic asset corresponding to, and in

24   exchange for, the exchange certificate, at said predetermined

25 date and time, said transmitting to one of said first

26 terminal, said second terminal, or a third terminal, and

27   an electronic asset status management section for

28 ensuring that said electronic asset is transmitted to said one

29 of said first terminal, said second terminal, or said third

30 terminal only if said exchange certificate has been

31 transmitted to said server from said one of said first

32 terminal, said second terminal, or said third terminal,

33   wherein said exchange certificate includes information

34 about obtaining said electronic asset, and further

35   wherein said electronic asset is for obtaining the

36 service or product from the vendor.

1   **Claim 87 (currently amended):** A server connected to a

2 terminal by way of a communications network, said server for

3 use in an electronic asset utilization system ~~comprising~~, said

4 server comprising:

5   a user processing section for receiving an order from a

6 first terminal for purchasing an electronic asset <u>including</u>

7 <u>electronic data</u> for obtaining a service or product being

8 offered for sale by a vendor;

9   a settlement processing section for receiving said

10 financial information from said first terminal, and for

11 settling a charge for said purchase in response to receiving

12 said financial information, and also for <u>electronically</u>

13 transmitting said settlement information about the purchase to

14 said first terminal after settling said charge,

15   an   exchange   certificate   issuance   section   for

16 electronically transmitting an exchange certificate including

17 electronic data to the first terminal or to a second terminal

18 in response to said order, wherein said exchange certificate

19 verifies a user's right to receive said electronic asset,

20   an electronic asset issuance section for electronically

21 transmitting said electronic asset corresponding to, and in

22 exchange for, the exchange certificate, said transmitting to

23 said one of the first terminal or the second terminal

24 occurring only if said exchange certificate has been

25 transmitted to said server from a same one of said one of said

26 first terminal, said second terminal, or said third terminal,

27 and said exchange certificate has been verified;

28   wherein said exchange certificate includes information

29 about obtaining said electronic asset, and further

30   wherein said electronic asset is for exchanging for the

31 service   or   product   from   the   vendor.

1   **Claim 88 (previously presented):** The server of claim 87,

2   wherein said electronic asset is transmitted in exchange for

3   said exchange certificate only if said charge has been settled

4   by said settlement processing section.

1   **Claim 89 (currently amended):** An electronic asset

2   utilization method comprising the steps of:

3   purchasing an electronic asset <u>including electronic data,</u>

4   <u>said purchasing</u> including the steps of:

5   sending an order for purchasing said electronic asset for

6   obtaining a service or product being offered for sale by a

7   vendor,

8   <u>electronically</u> transmitting financial information to

9   support said purchase of said electronic asset, and

10   receiving settlement information about said purchase; and

11   issuing said electronic asset, including the steps of:

12   receiving said order from said first terminal;

13   receiving said financial information from said first

14   terminal,

15   settling a charge for said purchase in response to

16   receiving said financial information,

17   <u>electronically</u> transmitting said settlement information

18   about the purchase to said first terminal after settling said

19   charge,

20   <u>electronically</u> transmitting an exchange certificate

21   <u>including electronic data</u> in response to said order, wherein

22   said exchange certificate verifies a user's right to receive

23   said electronic asset, and

24   <u>electronically</u> transmitting said electronic asset

25   corresponding to, and in exchange for, the exchange

26 certificate only if said exchange certificate has been

27 provided by the user prior to issuing said electronic asset,

28 and only if said exchange certificate has been validated;

29   wherein said exchange certificate includes information

30 about obtaining said electronic asset, and further

31   wherein said electronic asset is for being exchanged by

32 the user for obtaining the service or product from the vendor.

1   **Claim 90 (previously presented):** The server of claim 89,

2   wherein said electronic asset is transmitted in exchange for

3   said exchange certificate only if said charge has been

4   settled.